## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AMARILLO DIVISION

# FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION TO DENY PETITION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

Petitioner has filed with this Court a Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus by a Person in State Custody challenging a prison disciplinary ruling wherein petitioner lost previously accrued good time credits as punishment.<sup>1</sup> Petitioner is presently incarcerated at the Jordan Unit in Gray County, Texas pursuant to a March 28, 2017 Bexar County conviction for the felony offense of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle and the resultant 3-year sentence. *State v. Gomez*, No. 2017CR3218W.

In order to challenge a prison disciplinary adjudication by way of a federal petition for a writ of habeas corpus, a petitioner **must**, at a minimum, be eligible for mandatory supervised

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Other punishment petitioner was assessed in the disciplinary proceeding merely constituted changes in the conditions of his confinement and does not implicate the Due Process Clause of the United States Constitution as required for review in a federal habeas corpus proceeding. *See Sandin v. Conner*, 515 U.S. 472, 478, 115 S.Ct. 2293, 2297 (1995); *Madison v. Parker*, 104 F.3d 765, 767 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997).

release **and** have received a punishment sanction that included forfeiture of previously accrued good-time credits. *See Malchi v. Thaler*, 211 F.3d 953, 958 (5th Cir. 2000). In his habeas application, in response to Question 16 of the form, petitioner acknowledges he is <u>not</u> eligible for release on mandatory supervision.

Review of the online TDCJ Offender Information Detail reflects petitioner was convicted of the offense of robbery in Bexar County, Texas on July 29, 1996. *State v. Gomez*, No. 95CR3990. At the time petitioner committed the robbery offense on May 28, 1995, robbery was a felony of the second degree. Texas Penal Code § 29.02 (1995). Since September 1, 1996, an inmate who has previously been convicted of a second degree felony robbery offense may not be released to mandatory supervision. *See* Texas Code of Crim. Proc. art. 42.18 § 8(c)(9) (1996); *currently* Texas Gov't Code § 508.149 (a)(11) (2018). This statutory provision was in effect when petitioner committed and was convicted of his current holding offense of evading arrest rending him ineligible for release to mandatory supervision. As petitioner is not eligible for mandatory supervised release, he may not challenge a prison disciplinary proceeding by way of a federal petition for a writ of habeas corpus. *See Malchi*, 211 F.3d at 958. Petitioner's habeas application should be DENIED.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is the RECOMMENDATION of the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge to the Senior United States District Judge that the petition for a writ of habeas corpus filed by petitioner JESUS ROLAND GOMEZ a/k/a Roland Jesus Gomez be DENIED.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVICE**

The United States District Clerk is directed to send a copy of these Findings, Conclusions

and Recommendation to each party by the most efficient means available.

IT IS SO RECOMMENDED.

ENTERED December 14, 2018.

LEE ANN RENO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

# \* NOTICE OF RIGHT TO OBJECT \*

Any party may object to these proposed findings, conclusions and recommendation. In the event parties wish to object, they are hereby NOTIFIED that the deadline for filing objections is fourteen (14) days from the date of filing as indicated by the "entered" date directly above the signature line. Service is complete upon mailing, Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(C), or transmission by electronic means, Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(E). Any objections must be filed on or before the fourteenth (14th) day after this recommendation is filed as indicated by the "entered" date. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b); Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b)(2); see also Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(d).

Any such objections shall be made in a written pleading entitled "Objections to the Findings, Conclusions and Recommendation." Objecting parties shall file the written objections with the United States District Clerk and serve a copy of such objections on all other parties. A party's failure to timely file written objections shall bar an aggrieved party, except upon grounds of plain error, from attacking on appeal the unobjected-to proposed factual findings, legal conclusions, and recommendation set forth by the Magistrate Judge and accepted by the district court. See Douglass v. United Services Auto. Ass'n, 79 F.3d 1415, 1428-29 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc), superseded by statute on other grounds, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1), as recognized in ACS Recovery Servs., Inc. v. Griffin, 676 F.3d 512, 521 n.5 (5th Cir. 2012); Rodriguez v. Bowen, 857 F.2d 275, 276-77 (5th Cir. 1988).